

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment After Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and reconsider the application as amended for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments place the claims in condition for allowance and/or in better condition for appeal. The following remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action mailed July 12, 2006.

Office Action Rejections Summary

Claims 31 and 42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,870,265 of Boutaghout (“Boutaghout”).

Claims 43, 56, and 57 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Boutaghout.

Claims 33 and 45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Boutaghout in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,644,451 of Chan et al. (“Chan”).

Claims 34-41, 46-47, and 52-54 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 58-64 have been allowed.

Status of Claims

Claims 33-41, 45-47, 52-54, 56 and 58-64 are pending in the application. Claims 33, 34, 45, 46 and 56 have been amended. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 24-32, 31, 32, 42, 44, 48-51, 55 and 57 have been canceled by this amendment.

Claims 34-41, 46-47, and 52-54 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is submitted that claims 34-41, 46-47, and 52-54 have been either rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of a respective base claim and any intervening claims, or depend from an allowable claim. It is also submitted that claims 33, 45 and 56 have been amended to depend from an allowable claim.

In conclusion, applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome.

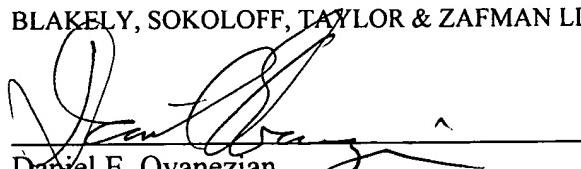
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 2/20, 2006



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